

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** January 4, 2006

**Inspector:** Diana Walden

**Location:** 345kV Underground Route

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Approximately 1.34" of precipitation fell mostly in the form of snow in the north and rain in the south on 1/2-1/3 as reported by NOAA.

| Areas of Inspection                    | Observation  | Recommended Action   |
|--|--|--|
| Vault Openings and Trench Construction | - Trenching and pipe installation, continue in several locations off Rt. 7 in Wilton. A new storage/work area was noted across from Old Highway Rd. 1/4/06                                     | -Continue providing good "house- keeping" along the roadways. A few spots are ready for restoration. See additional sections for more information. 12/1-1/4/06             |
|  | - Roadwork along Rt. 107, south of the Georgetown Deli continues and pipe is being installed along a steep slope above a bridge over the Norwalk River. 12/22-1/4/06                           | -None at this time. See other sections for more information 12/22-1/4/06   |
|  | - The Horizontal Direction Drill at School Rd. issues with turbid water and the containment are still present. 12/8-1/4/06 Some water removal and excavation had occurred in some spots 1/4/06 | -Turbid water as a result of drilling needs more attention here. There is a large amount of exposed surfaces as well. See additional sections for more details.12/8-1/4/06 |
|  | - Dewatering and backfill activity continues at Georgetown Deli J&B. 1/4/06  | - This area looks mostly well contained, but see additional sections for more details. 1/4/06  |
|  | - The vaults at the Norwalk Junction site were mostly completed the day of inspection. 1/4/06  | -Some issues needs attention. See other sections for details. 1/4/06   |
|  | - The settling basin at the old  | - The silt fence needs to be   |

| Areas of Inspection   | Observation  | Recommended Action  |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Erosion and Sediment (E&amp;S) Controls (includes inspection within 24 hours of a storm event) continued</p> <p><b>Route 7</b></p> | <p>HS J&amp;B has been backfilled as recommended. However, stone and haybales remain at the streambank and the silt fence has some large gaps. 12/22-1/4/06</p> <p>-Underwater sediment accumulation was still noted in the stream in several locations. This should be removed before spring flows disperse it downstream. 11/10-1/4/06</p> <p>- At the HDD, the detention area continues to need attention with turbid water and mud directly due to wash from the bore operation. 12/14-1/4/06</p> <p>- Portion of the basin appear to have been excavated or water was removed. But the water/mud levels are still high in some areas. 1/4/06</p> <p>-A large amount of rutted and disturbed soil is present on site which can create turbid run-off and equipment access will continue to make matters worse. 12/22-1/4/06</p> <p>- Ruts were also noted to the west of the basin, beyond the areas encompassed by the basin. 12/22-1/4/06.</p> <p>- Silt fence was installed across the connection to the eastern wetland but needs to be toed- in. Turbid water is still pooling in the wetland here. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Turbid water from drill cuttings was noted below the tank and migrating into the site. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Some E&amp;S controls near the</p> | <p>toed in and repaired as soon as possible and the stone/haybale pile will eventually need to be removed. 12/22-1/4/06</p> <p>-The least impacting way to remove the sediment is likely by hand/shovel or vac truck. It should be done carefully and with the instream controls in place. 11/10-1/4/06</p> <p>- Mud is still escaping the bore in the area of the basin due to a lack of structure created when the area was previously excavated. 12/14-1/4/06.</p> <p>-It was determined that the mud would be excavated daily and removed to Danbury. 1/4/06</p> <p>- We recommend placing swamp mats for equipment accessing the basin for future clean-outs or other movement on site, in order to provide additional stabilization and prevent future disturbance. If mats are not financially feasible, consider temporary stone on fabric. 12/22-1/4/06</p> <p>-Toe-in the fence as soon as there is a period of thaw to prevent run-off from the disturbed area getting to the wetland. 12/14-1/4/06 (It may be possible at this time) 1/4/06</p> <p>- The silt fence here is down and should be repaired. This area should be better contained to remove another source of turbidity. 1/4/06</p> |

| Areas of Inspection      | Observation  | Recommended Action   |
|--------------------------|--|--|
|                          | basin were degraded where the silt fence is down and haybales pushed over. 12/8-1/4/06   | -Watch and improve condition of controls around the basin. 12/8-1/4/06   |
| <b>Route 7 continued</b> | <p>- The storage area near #848 (Rt.7) is still highly utilized. 1/4/06</p> <p>- The vault work at Norwalk Junction is almost complete. Dewatering was just finished but the filter bag was still draining at the time of inspection. A number of good controls were in place and noticeable sediment was removed from the water but it was still somewhat turbid upon entering the culvert. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Turbid water remained pooled in a wetland area adjacent to the river. The silt fence was installed as recommended. 1/4/06</p>   | <p>- Continue to monitor activity in here. Watch placement of project materials in the vicinity of this roadside swale. 12/8-1/4/06</p> <p>- It is difficult to separate out the portion of the turbidity resulting from the 345kV work and what was a result of run-off/erosion from the site and the soil swale. However, it seems the 345kV work has had certainly contributed. 12/30-1/4/06</p> <p>- The silt fence helped to keep turbidity from the river to some degree. 1/4/06</p> |
| <b>Rt. 107 Daywork</b>   | <p>- The J&amp;B operation at the Georgetown Deli appears mostly contained and some backfilling had occurred. More sandbags/silt fence were installed along the stream bank. 1/4/06</p> <p>-The silt fence at the base of the dewatering outlet was back in place and contained some turbid water. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Active trench work/pipe installation continued on a slope above the Norwalk River. Silt fence was in place. 12/22-1/4/06<br/>Controls were also in place along the parking lot edge where soil was stockpiled. 1/4/06</p> | <p>- Continue to monitor and maintain controls adjacent to the stream . 1/4/06</p> <p>- Dewatering and regular filter changes are still occurring as evident by a large number of used filters. 1/4/06</p> <p>-This was fairly well contained and the stream was running clear. 1/4/06</p> <p>- None at this time but monitor the status of fence and controls here carefully due to the steep grade and river below. 12/22-1/4/06</p>   |

| Areas of Inspection                 | Observation   | Recommended Action  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Umpawaug Rd.                        | <p>-Active trenching is not occurring at this time. Controls at Wayside Lane had some gaps and holes adjacent to the wetland. Silt fence was down near a wetland at Mallory Lane. 12/30-1/4/05</p> <p>- Haybales were still needed across the street from #79 at the top of the gully but the area was currently covered with snow. 1/4/06</p>  | <p>-None at this time but the controls should be repaired <b>IF</b> active work returns here. 1/4/06</p> <p>-Reduce run-off here when feasible. 1/4/06</p>  |
| Adjacent Wetlands and Waterways     | <p>-At the jack and bore near Allens Meadow Park, the stream had some remaining accumulated sediment under the water which needs to be removed. 11/10-1/4/06</p> <p>-The stream at the Georgetown Deli jack and bore was running clear. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Bubbling, apparently from a ground fracture, was noted in the wetlands beyond the HDD site. An observable deposit of sediment had occurred into a channel adjacent to the Norwalk River. 12/14-1/4/06 (Water is bubbling/running clear at this time). 1/4/06</p> <p>- Turbid water was noted pooled in the wetlands adjacent to the Norwalk River at Norwalk Junction. 12/30-1/4/06</p> | <p>- Hand shoveling or careful vac-truck use are likely the best solutions with instream controls in place. This needs to happen before spring rains disperse it. 10/27-1/4/06</p> <p>- Contractors state that they have been performing filter changes on a regular basis to prevent turbidity. 12/8-1/4/06</p> <p>- Contractors were to watch this spot carefully as well as clean up all deposited sediment. This had not been done yet as far as we can tell. 12/14-1/4/06</p> <p>- See erosion control section. 1/4/06</p> |
| Staging, Storage, and Parking Areas | <p>- The equipment storage yard on the property south of the Rt. 7 &amp; 107 intersection was muddy but vehicles were contained. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Take care with materials or disturbance too close to the swale by Rt.7. 1/4/06</p> <p>-The overall condition at</p>  | <p>- In general, materials should be placed appropriately in storage areas or immediately adjacent to work each night. No potentially spillable materials should be left behind or out overnight. 1/4/06</p> <p>-Determine how to contain</p>   |

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|--|---|---|
|  | <p>School Rd. HDD area includes a lot of bare, exposed soil and turbid washwater. Stabilization is needed here for equipment movement as well. 12/14-1/4/06</p> <p>- The racquet club storage yard has been very active with a lot of materials. Make sure inlets here are protected. 10/27-1/4/06</p> <p>- A new storage area was noted across from Old Highway Rd. An unidentified open container/pail was noted here. 1/4/06</p> | <p>and stabilize the area better. 12/14-1/4/06</p> <p>- Keep within the limits of the yard and don't encroach into the brush. 10/27-1/4/06</p> <p>- Be sure to pick up and contain all potentially spillable materials by the end of a work day. 1/4/06</p> |
| Soils  | <p>- Most soils adj. to roadways on the project route are being trucked to a waste facility in Danbury for storage and eventual disposal.</p> <p>- Soils from the trench above Norwalk River on Rt. 107 is stored at an adjacent parking lot. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Mud will be excavated from the HDD basin and transported to Danbury as a partial solution to the turbidity issues here. 12/14-1/4/06</p>                              | <p>- Soils appear to be handled appropriately. 1/4/06</p> <p>- The soils are well contained at this time. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Some excavation may have been performed but it will need to continue. 12/14-1/4/06</p>  |
| State species of concern, threatened and endangered species                | - No species of concern are located in this area of construction.   | - N/A   |
| Vegetative clearing limits (including trees to save or danger trees noted) | <p>- Snow cover/frozen ground is now a factor in restoration/stabilization attempts. 12/8-1/4/06</p> <p>- Some erosion was noted in previously restored areas such as near Scribner Hill Rd. 1/4/06</p>   | - Attend to disturbed areas as feasible in the appropriate time frames. 11/10-1/4/06  |
| Dewatering   | - Several frac tanks are still in place at the Georgetown Deli parking lot in order to hold the water from the jack and bore pits here. They have cycled  | <p>- Continue to monitor for effectiveness. The water in the stream was running clear. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Slight turbidity is noted with</p>   |

| Areas of Inspection         | Observation   | Recommended Action  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
|                             | <p>millions of gallons of water since the start of the project. 12/1-1/4/06</p> <p>- Significant dewatering had been required at the vault installation at Norwalk Junction but it was recently completed. The filter bag was still draining. Noticeable sediment was well contained but water entering the culvert was still somewhat turbid. 1/4/06</p>   | <p>in the silt fence. 1/4/06</p> <p>- Frac tanks were still in place but had filled up too quickly. Groundwater is extremely high. See erosion control section for more details. 1/4/06</p>   |
| Blasting                    | - No blasting is occurring on site at this time.  | - None at this time.  |
| Spills and Material Storage | <p>- The turbid washwater and sediment containment issues from the bore work and drill cuttings are still causing issues at the HDD. 12/8-1/4/06</p> <p>- Spill spots (likely from overfueling) were still observed below the re-fueling tank at the HDD site. 12/22-1/4/06</p> <p>- A slight sheen was seen in several puddles at the Deli J&amp;B yard. No obvious source was noted but it may be a result of a previous drip spot in the soil. 1/4/06</p> <p>- In general, make sure that glues, asphalt components and other materials are stored well overnight and not left out along the roadway. 1/4/06</p> | <p>- The basin will be excavated of mud on a regular basis and controls need repair around the tank. 1/4/06</p> <p>- The affected soil needs to be removed and disposed of and plastic will be placed under the tank for containment. If this is a leak of any kind, it needs repair. 12/22-1/4/06</p> <p>- We recommended that contractors soak up the sheen using some absorbent pads. 1/4/06</p> <p>- The contractors should remain vigilant about securing and handling fuel containers.</p> <p>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site.</p> <p>- Check equipment status on a regular basis and keep spill kits on hand.</p> <p>- Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</p> |

| Areas of Inspection     | Observation | Recommended Action |
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| Additional Observations |             |                    |

**Next likely scheduled inspection:**

Thursday, January 12, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:** Diana Walden





**345kV (Umpawaug Rd Daywork):** No active trenching was occurring. Both photos are near #79. Photo on the left shows haybales remaining in the swale. Photo on the right shows the spot where water runs down to the stream which is currently blocked by snow. 1/4/06



**345kV (Georgetown Deli Jack and Bore):** Photo on the left shows the stream with some minor turbidity retained in the silt fence. Photo on the right shows the overall site with frac tanks remaining in place. 1/4/06





Photo on the left shows the bore pit side of the work. Some backfilling has already occurred here. The photo on the right shows the sandbag and silt fence controls adjacent to the stream on the receiving pit side. 1/4/06



345kV (Rt. 107 Norwalk River work) Photo on the left shows an overview of the trenchwork with the pipes being installed. Photo on the right shows a view down towards the river with erosion controls well installed. Controls are also in place along the parking lot where soil is stockpiled.





345kV (HDD): Overall view of the site. It appears that some excavation may have occurred in the detention basin area. Ice/mud levels still remain high towards the back berm. 1/4/06



Photo on the left shows the ponded area to the east of the basin where turbid water has pooled. Photo on the right shows where some of the water and mud may have been removed. 1/4/06





Photo on the left shows turbid water still pooling in other areas adjacent to the basin. The area is highly disturbed and needs some additional support for equipment access. The photo on the right shows turbid water from the drill cuttings outside the tank. The silt fence here needs repair and this area should be contained better. 1/4/06



345kV (Rt. 7 and Norwalk Junction): The photo on the left is a view of another work/storage area noted across from Old Highway Rd. Photo on the right shows a view of a recently installed vault at Norwalk Junction. Work on the vault is mostly complete, including active dewatering. 1/4/06





Photo on the left shows the swale where the filter bag continues to discharge from the recently completed dewatering. A large amount of silt has been removed and collected by the controls here but the water entering the culverts is still somewhat turbid. The photo on the right is a close-up view of the culvert. 1/4/06



The photo shows a view of the turbidity in the wetland adjacent to the Norwalk River. Additional silt fence was installed as requested which prevents most of the turbidity from getting to the river. 1/4/06